## WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS

3060 Willamette Dr NE Lacey, WA 98516 PHONE (360) 486-2380 FAX (360) 486-2381 WEBSITE - www.waspc.org

Serving the Law Enforcement Community & the Citizens of Washington

## **Community Meeting about Gangs**

The Work Group on Gang-Related Crime invites community members to attend a community meeting to discuss gang activity and gang-related violence in their community on Thursday, August 23 from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM at the Bellingham City Hall Council Chambers in Bellingham.

What: Community Meeting about Gangs

Who: Work Group on Gang-Related Crime

When: Thursday, August 23, 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM

Where: Bellingham City Council Chambers

210 Lottie Street

Bellingham, WA 98225

## Background

The Work Group on Gang-Related Crime was created by the Washington State Legislature through SB 5987, passed in the 2007 legislative session. SB 5987 directed the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to coordinate a group of legislatively appointed gang experts to evaluate gang-related crime in our state. The work group consists of legislators, prosecutors, local law enforcement, criminal defense attorneys, court administrators, experts in gang or delinquency prevention including the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, and prison administrators and probation officers.

The Work Group is charged with evaluating and making recommendations to the Legislature regarding additional legislative measures to combat gang-related crime, the creation of a statewide gang information database, possible reforms to the juvenile justice system for gang-related juvenile offenses, best practices for prevention and intervention of youth gang membership, and the adoption of legislation authorizing a civil antigang injunction.

The Work Group will hold its second regular business meeting on August 23 from 10:00 AM until approximately 4:00 PM at the Bellingham Police Department and August 24 from 9:00 AM until approximately 3:00 PM at the Bellingham Municipal Court Building.

## Contact

For more information or special assistance, including interpreters, please contact the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs Work Group on Gang-Related Crime Project Manager, James McMahan, at <a href="mailto:james@waspc.org">james@waspc.org</a> or at (360) 486-2380.

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